

A Brief  
**LETTER**

From a Young

**OXONIAN**

To one of his late

**Fellow-Pupils**

Upon the Subject of

**MAGNETISM.**



**L O N D O N:**

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A Brief

## LETTER

From a Young

OXONIAN, &amp;c.

S I R,

**S**INCE my last Opportunity of Discourſing with you, (which is now ſome Months paſt) my Thoughts have run continually upon the Subject we were then engag'd in, which was the Nature of *Magnetism*; and what with the dignity of the Matter and the Indearments of the Party who argu'd ſo Rationally upon it, whereof the one facilitated the remembrance of the other; I have hardly talk'd of any thing elſe waking, nay, (as I am told) ſleeping too, and all this at laſt without the ſucceſs that might juſtly have been preſum'd of ſuch frank endeavours; but that you may know how much I am the wiſer, and be diverted by my Example from lavishing too great a Portion of time upon ſuch *Gordian-knots*, I have ventur'd to ſend you the ſumm of my Acquiſitions. It is a Queſtion which we know has employ'd and prov'd too hard for the Pens of the moſt eminent *Philophers*, and is to be rank'd among thoſe Miſteries of *Nature*, which neither the thoughtful Ancients, the laborious School-Men, nor our acute Virtuofi, could ever make a compleat Diſcovery of: Not but that the *Peripatetic* is verily perſuaded he has ſeen farther into it than other People, as long as he can answer your demands with Occult quality or its elder Siſter Subſtantial form; and if this does not lay it all bare, what does? there is ſays he, very gravely, ſomething whereof we cannot with confidence affirm any thing, which either within the *Magnet* or from without, diſpoſes it in ſuch and ſuch a manner; and then

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there

there is another *what do you call it*, with which according to the Determination of its *Poles*, it attracts or repels a Body Congenial; and think you Sir, this answer is not very worthy of a *Philosopher*? Others have entertain'd an Opinion, that the *Magnet* accomplishes its Operations by the Emission of Effluviuims out of its own Continuum; and this the Learned have so Rationally disprov'd already, that I shall think it sufficient, if not superfluous, to offer but one Objection against it, which shall be grounded upon the Nature and Structure of the *Load-stone*. It is to be remembred that as that Stone is for the most part fetch'd out of *Iron-mines* and foster'd in Beds of *Iron Ore*; so in its Nature it scarce varies from that Metal, save in the eminence of one Quality which is Compactedness; for altho' in other Qualities it dissents from *Iron*, as in its Gravity, Inductility, and Microporosity or littleness of *Pores*, yet in these it rather differs from the Metal consequentially than essentially, since the Original and Fountain of them seem to be the Quality of Compactedness, for the comprehension of more univocal matter in less Space, which is but a Periphrasis of Compactedness unecesarily requir'd to gravity; and then as for its Inductility, 'tis confessed that the most compact and heavy of all known Bodies which is *Gold*, is the most Ductile and Malleable, but it is not reasonable to conclude from thence, That the most Ductile and Malleable Bodies are always the most compact and ponderous; Ductility or Malleableness as I conceive, requiring no more than that the Parts should be of such a Figure as would be least impatient of those Impressions, suppose of an *Equilateral Quadrangular Superficies*, whereas such a similitude and correspondency of Parts seems not to be absolutely necessary to a Bodies becoming heavy and compact, so their Connexion and Union be but such as admits of the smallest *Interstices* and *Pores*; not but a coincident Figure of Parts, such as that I just mentioned an *Equilateral Quadrangular*, contributes much to Compactedness, for which reason all *Architects* take care their Materials be of such a form. But the parts of the *Load stone* are in all probability so far from *Equilateral Quadrangulars*, that they are rather to be supposed of a Branchy stragling Figure as the Parts of

Iron,



*Iron*, yet because those Branches are better and closer Plaited and Connected one with the other than those of *Iron*, which are so loosely dispos'd as to be even thorough fares for Heterogeneous Matter, they become more Inviolable and Inflexible than those of the latter; nor is there any farther occasion to prove as much of the Tenuity of its Pores. seeing therefore the *Magnet* and *Iron* have so near an Affinity as to be in respect of *Magnetism*, two Species of the same Genus, and their difference chiefly to consist in the Dignity and Degrees of some Accidents, on account of which *Iron* may be reputed an imperfect and Bastard *Load-stone*, and the *Load-stone* the most pure and noble *Iron*; there will be found but few *Phænomena* which may not be attributed to both indifferently, wherefore it ought to be a general Prolegomenon in disputes upon this Subject, That *Magnetism*, not of the *Magnet* only properly so called, but of all *Magnetical* Bodies is the Theme. *Magnetical* Bodies being therefore naturally unapt for Malleableness and Ductility, though one Species less so than another; it will follow that notwithstanding they are tight and compact, yet that the Parts of them are of no *Quadrangular* regular shape, but on the contrary of a stragling Branchy one, though strongly Interwoven and Connected; whence it is Demonstrative that the Effluviæ of *Magnetical* Bodies flow not from within themselves, for by such a Procession and Expiration, it is certain there must be a very considerable and visible expence of the Parts: for though slightly considering the matter, it may be answered that the Evaporating Particles are few and slender, yet when their mutual Dependence and Concatenation is weigh'd, it will appear that one single Particle cannot escape without the attendance of its whole Chain, so that in a short time there would necessarily succeed a very sensible and obvious decay of Parts; and this may suffice you for the Confutation of the Opinion of *Perpiration*. I shall not worry you with the rest of those Hypotheses and Notions which some Mens Brains have teem'd with; such as the Influence of the *Stars*, or the entire *Magnetism* of the *Earth* and the like, which instead of giving a light into the Question, is but meer building new Extra-

vagancies and Errors upon our Antecedent Ignorance. I have therefore only a Word to say to *Des Cartes* and the *Materia Pennata* Men, and so shall go on to perform my promise. The latter of them seem to be offenders against all Reason and Rule too ; it is a receiv'd Maxim or Postulat among *Philosophers*, That Entities without a necessity are not to be Multiply'd, and if so, then certainly are those *Philosophers* to blame, who have invented a new Species of Matter, of an unaccountable extract and production to effect those Operations which another Species of Matter, the existence whereof is evidently known has Power to effect. But as for the Ingenious *Des Cartes*, it were an unpardonable peice of Ignorance and Envy, not to acknowledg his *Hypothesis* to be the most satisfactory and adequate Account hitherto Published ; but yet as a Man's having good Eyes when he walks in the Dark, will not save him from stumbling some times, so neither could the Perspicacity of this great Man, ensure him from many mistakes in the trace of so profound a Secret. For not to mention to one who knows them so well, the many perplexities which the Learned have discover'd in his *Philosophical* Principles, altho' the reality of his *Magnetical System* must unavoidably stand or fall with those Principles : I say not to mention any thing of this ; there are yet some difficulties observable in the *System* it self ; take one for all, for his Instruments, he supposes a sort of fine Matter to issue out of both *Poles* of the *Earth* after such a manner, that those that come from one *Pole* take a compass round the Superficies of the *Earth* and enter in again at t' other, which matter he has Denominated *Corpuscula Striata*, because of the *Strias* impressed upon it by being drain'd thro' the *Apertures* or *Interstices* necessarily left between the contacts of the *Globuli* of his second *Element* ; This matter he supposes to be a Species of his first *Element*, which he defines thus, *Quæ tantam vim habet agitationis, ut aliis Corporibus occurrendo in minutias indefinitæ parvitatibus dividatur, & figuras suas ad omnes Angulorum, ab ijs relictorum angustias implendas, accommodet* ; It is, says he, so agil a kind of Matter as upon encountring other Bodies, to dash into innumerable Particles, and conforms it self to the Spaces which

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which are left between those Bodies. but how is it possible to conceive, That Matter of so easy and yeilding a Nature should not be as Susceptive of an Impression from, and as conformable to the *Pores* of Bodies compounded of third Elementary Matter, in the number of which are *Magnetical* Bodies, as it is to the Interstices of the *Globuli* of the second *Element*, which if it be, then cannot it act with any force or impulse, but must glide ineffectually thro' the Passages of the *Magnet*, and like a winding Stream comply with the Luxuriancy of its Channel; nor will it avail to say that this Matter upon approaching the *Poles* of the *Magnetical* Body is Congregated, and Acts with an united force, since we cannot see why it should more readily congregate and confederate upon such an accession than before or after it, unless, which this Learned *Philosopher* I am sure will not admit, it is Collected by some Sympathetical Attraction of the *Magnetical* Body. thus Sir, you see one Difficulty, and were it needful perhaps I could make you sensible of many more; but I am unwilling to attempt a Dispute, which would be as endless as the Ropings of the *Welchman's* Toasted Cheese. Now be pleased to hear what I can say for myself.

It is apparent that there can be no such thing as Motion without an Impulse, and that upon such an impulse a Motion greater or less must ensue; from whence we gather that all *Magnetical* Bodies require some Impellent to enable them to perform those various Feats and Operations observable in them; and here an Inquiry will arise, were we shall meet with an Agent confessedly existent in Nature, neither too gross nor too feeble, but in all respects qualify'd for such undertakings, *Corpuscula Striata* or *Pennata*, as has been already shewn, are Fabulous or Impotent if not both, and the daily Testimonies of Mens Eyes assure them that no visible Conspicuous Agent is in the Cause; of necessity therefore it must be something of a midling kind between these two, which cannot be any other than the *Æthereal* or *Subtile* Matter incorporated in the *Atmosphere* of our *Terraqueous Globe*, which Matter by the diurnal Motion of the *Earth* is rapidly devolv'd from *West* to *East* perpetually: Now you

will presently wonder, I do not doubt, how that which moves from *West* to *East* should direct any *Magnetical* Body so as that its *Poles* should point directly *North* and *South*, but have a little Patience. The existence of such *Æthereal* Matter I am confident you will not call in Question, and that it is endu'd with a Scrutinous penetrating Nature may, were it not trivial, be Demonstrated from the very end and essence of it; but still this Agent suffers under the Imputation of Insufficiency and Variability equally with that of *Des Cartes*, and considered by it self undoubtedly it does so, but considered with Circumstances as the Precipitance of its Motion, the Disposition of the Parts of its Patient and the like, it will answer your Expectation and Demands. Thus the Wind can manage the Sails of a Windmil, and turn them round with ease, but has no Power upon a Rock or a Mountain; from hence it is evident therefore that this Agent must be driven with a due force of Motion, and also that the Patient must have some of its Parts adapted for receiving and suffering the Impulse. Whoever takes a just estimate of the *Earths* Celerity in her diurnal Motion, must be convinced that the Violence of such a Motion is able to effect great things, and whoever remembers that the Motion of the *Æthereal* Matter about the *Earths* *Superficies* must be proportionably quicker as that is Degrees fluidier, must also be satisfy'd of the abilities of such Matter to penetrate all the accessible passages of those Bodies, which occur in its course and to rage and æstuate in them, if they be not very regular and open.

Having thus obtain'd an Agent; there are two things next to be examin'd, the one is whether this Agent when it is free and uninterrupted is capable of such an Administration; The second is, Whether though it be so of its self, yet external Diversions and Disturbances may not frustrate and evacuate its Influence, which Queries being both Answered, I hope no further difficulties will remain. In order to clear the first, I must give you to understand that many of the Particles of *Magnetical* Bodies are like so many Tendrils or little Springs, Taper and Tortuous, which in regard of the Internal Disposition and Posture of *Magnetical* Bodies,  
and



and the many anomalous Ramofities into which the Parts of them ſpread themſelves, I may expect to be eaſily granted. The Body of the *Æthereal* Matter therefore ruſhing into the *Pores* of the *Magnetical* Bodies, and there labouring to exert its ſelf on all ſides, and obtain a free Paſſage or a convenient Receptacle, diſtends and explicates theſe little Springs which lie ranged in one and the ſame order, from this *Pole* to that *Pole* of the *Magnetical* Body, the conſequence of which diſtention can not be a direct Progreſſive Motion of the Body, becauſe then all parts of theſe Springs muſt equally reſiſt the Impulſes of the *Æthereal* Matter, but being of a Taper form, larger and ſtronger toward the Radix of them than toward their Summity or Cuspis, ( forgive my Pedantry where I cannot help it, ) the finer and weaker parts of them ſuffer a readier or more forcible Expansion or Diaſtole than the larger and radical, whereupon enſues inſtead of a Progreſſive Motion a Deſlexion or Diſtortion of the Springs themſelves, and of the Continuum to which they adhere. For inſtance, If the Radix of the Spring of a Watch were faſtened to a peice of *Wood* or *Iron*, when the Summity or leſſer Parts of that Spring were diſtended and diſplay'd, it would not carry the *Wood* or *Iron* at the end of it in a direct Motion to any Point juſt before it, but it would turn and move it round within the Limits of the ſame Area, on which it lay before the Terminating weaker Parts were expanded; and this Diſtention may very eaſily be effected by the Vehemency and Agitation of the *Æthereal* Matter, which (to make a groſs Compariſon) Acts as vigorouſly upon them as the Wind in a crop of Corn, or among the ſprigs of Trees. When therefore the *Poles* of *Magnetical* Bodies are thus deſlected to the Points of *North* and *South*, the equal urgency of the Influx of the acceſſory *Æthereal* Matter upon all Parts of the *Magnetical* Body, deſtroys the Strength of the Impreſſion, and ſtays its Motion at juſt that Inſtant; for it muſt be remembered that the ſides of the *Magnet* have not *Pores* fit to receive the *Æthereal* Matter, which therefore upon impaction flows round it in a Vortical manner, as ſhall be better explain'd hereafter. So the firſt difficulty diſappears, the ſecond follows, Whether



ther though our Agent be capacitated, yet external Divisions and Disturbances may not frustrate its Influence. The *Cartesians* I hope will not be the Men that start this Quere, their Doctrine of the *Loadstone* labouring under the same or a worse disadvantage; for if external Commotions as of the Wind, &c. can confound the order and irritate the Operation of our *Æthereal Matter*, whose Motion is so certain, regular, strong and unintermitted; what will become of their *Corpuscula Striata* or *Pennata*, they being not only obnoxious to accidental Ruffles and Perturbations, but continually thwarted and Transvers'd by this flux of our Subtile Matter? But I am persuaded we are both out of danger from Storms of every kind, and need not shrink at the rage of Whirlwinds and Hurricans, for such is the minuteness and velocity of our Agents that they make their way thro' all Opposition: like an Arrow in the *Aire*, or a good Keel through the Waves, or as the Sunbeams directly dart thro' the *Atmosphere* many times when 'tis vex'd and tost with the Winds; which last Similitude carries the most in it, on account of the vicinity between the matter of the Sunbeams and our Subtile or *Æthereal Matter*; And thus we are past the two Impregnable Wards of this Inchant'd *Labyrinth*.

You will look perhaps that I should examine all the instances and Energies of *Magnetical Bodies*, and should solve every particular *Phænomenon* by this *Hypothesis*, but if you do you will be deceived, for I am not yet so prodigal of my Time or of my Paper, which of late is very considerably risen, as I suppose you have e're this experienced, and therefore am of Opinion that the explication of these Five Properties followiug may suffice.

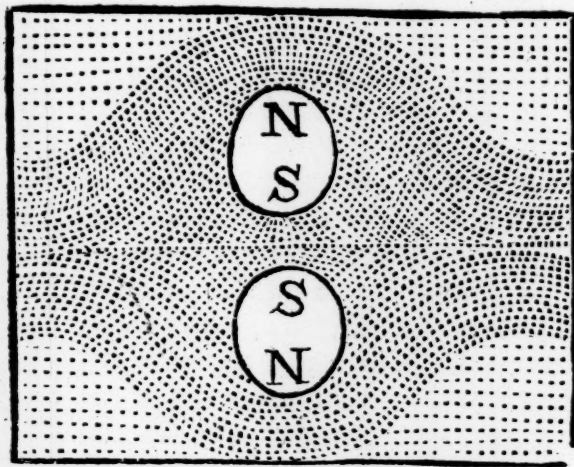
First, the *Magnet* (for now we come to particular cases) if it be unrestrain'd and have its just Liberty, will turn about till its *North Pole* directly answers the *South Pole* of the *Earth*, and its *South Pole* the *North Pole* of the *Earth*: Of which conversion I need not repeat to you the cause, having already so lately and largely spoke of it.

Secondly, If two *Magnets* lye at a convenient distance one from the other, and their *Poles* be disposed for their Accession, as when the *North Pole* of the one faces the South

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*South Pole* of the other, or the *South Pole* of the one faces the *North Pole* of the other, they will close, and if their *Poles* are laid just contrary wise they mutually retreat, for you must know the *Æthereal Matter* which effects to move in a *Mathematical* Circular Line, upon invading the sides of the *Magnet*, finding few or no *Pores* to receive it, the main course or grain of the *Pores* lying extended from *Pole* to *Pole*, deviates from its regular Line of Motion and flowing round all parts of the *Magnets* Superficies, falls into a kind of Vortex on all sides of the inclosed Body; when therefore two *Magnets* are situate at such a distance off each other that the intermediate Space is too close and narrow to Transmit the influxes of so much of the *Æthereal Matter* as is carried round the approximated *Poles* of both *Magnet's*, the Influxes unite and generate one Vortex common to them both, which cannot come to pass but at the same time the deviation of the *Æthereal Matter* from its regular line of Motion will encrease, and consequently with it its Propensity to recover it again, whereupon must ensue a stronger Impression and Protrusion than ever upon the exterior *Poles* of both *Magnets*, they being the Points of its widest deviation, and to their Impression the *Magnets* giving way immediately close, so that the nearer they lie to one another, the stronger is the Impression upon their exterior *Poles*, the weaker the resistance of the Interposing Matter, the sadder their Concourse, and the firmer their Union, & *vice versa*. The requisiteness of their Dinominal *Poles* facing one another is plain, because that Position which is natural to them, separately consider'd, cannot but be the most suitable for their Union; and the reason of their flying one another when their Cognomininal *Poles* are Approximated is this. The Central Parts of the Vorticle wherein both *Magnets* are immers'd, conform as in all Vortexes whatsoever to the Motion of the exterior Parts, and that is as we have just observ'd, a Deviation or Distraction or equal Division of the Vortex it self toward either Point *North* or *South*, and such by consequence must the distribution be of the Central Parts of the Vortex, and therefore acting with equal strength on both sides, if those of one side,

side, that is toward the Polar parts of the *Magnet*, on one side meet with so disagreeable a Texture of Parts, as obliges them to retire unsuccessful, and those which act on the other side or toward the Polar parts of the opposite *Magnet* are more mildly received, as it will be when their Denominal *Poles* are placed over against one another, this would be apt to drive away one of the *Magnets* from the other, were not the Impression of the external Parts of the same common Vorticle more powerful than that of such Central Parts; but when the Cognominal *Poles* of both *Magnets* face each other, the Impression of the Central Parts of the Vortex on both sides will be equal, and their mutual renitency will as easily overpower the Impression of the external Parts of the Vortex, as a Man that should be to bend the Body of a young Tree, though with one Hand singly he were not able to move it, yet when he set his other Hand against the Body of another Tree of equal growth, would find it in his power to bend them both. The following Draught will illustrate this.



Thirdly, If two *Magnets* be duly dispos'd, one will support and sustain the other in the *Air*, as also a *Magnet* will in like manner sustain a peice of *Iron*, which is very easily accounted for, the second *Phænomenon* being well understood, for being first united in the manner there describ'd, their Cohasion must

must be as valid and tenacious by reason of the pressure of the *Æthereal Matter* upon their Superficies, as is the Cohæ-  
sion of two Polished Marbles thro' the compression of the  
External *Air*; and the same is to be said of *Iron*, which as  
was hinted before to you, seems to be but a Bastard *Load-*  
*stone*.

Fourthly, A *Loadstone* will Communicate its Faculties  
and Affections to *Iron*: for you are to remember that *Iron*  
is of a Congenial Nature with the *Magnet* it self, and that  
therefore it requires but a little Modification to render it  
completely *Magnetical*, which Modification it under goes  
from the *Loadstone* as it lies in its proper posture, for altho'  
the *Loadstone* does not then abound with or discharge the  
*Æthereal Matter* in such Plenty as when it is laid with its  
*Poles East, and West*, yet a more moderate Concoction and  
Ebullition of the same kind of Matter continues, which Con-  
coction being effected among the Springs of the *Magnet*,  
the *Æthereal Matter* which is agitated and Concocted must  
of necessity receive such a peculiarity of Motion as the Pas-  
sages lying among and between those Springs will Model it  
into, and issuing out of the *Magnets Poles* in such a Motion  
it enters the *Pores* of the Applicated *Iron*, where finding at  
once a larger Liberty (the *Pores* of *Iron* being more lax than  
those of the *Magnet*) and also new Recruits of other *Æthe-*  
*real Matter*, which enters the large *Pores* of *Iron* at all parts  
of it alike till such *Iron* is *Magneticis'd*, it æstuates with great-  
er vigour, joins forces with the *Æthereal Matter* that it finds  
in the *Iron*, Communicates to it the same Species of Motion,  
and both in Conjunction, Purge, Polish, Frame, and in all  
respects prepare those Particles of the *Iron* which are capa-  
ble of being wrought into *Magnetical* Springs, and when  
by such a course they are wrought into those Springs, the  
*Iron* becomes completely *Magnetical*; for as the Coadjution  
of the Cock is required toward the Perfectionating those Se-  
minal Principles the matter whereof rests in the Ovary of the  
Hen, and without such Coadjution would prove at best A-  
bortive: so there appears a necessity of the *Irons* receiving the  
influx of the *Æthereal Matter*, which was Model'd in the  
*Magnet*, to beget such a Motion of its own *Æthereal Matter*



as might compleat its *Magnetism*, which Analogy I think fairly explains the whole Supposition.

Fifthly, *Magnetical* Bodies are divested of their Qualities either by Rust or Excandefaction, or if they are confin'd any length of time to a forc'd and violent Position: The first partly Corroding, partly Distempering, and partly Incumbering the little Springs; the second utterly destroying them, and the third suffering Malignant and Heterogeneous Matter to disturb and Choak them.

So much good Friend, for our Physical consideration of *Magnetical* Bodies, for I am very loath to examine all those other Phænomena, which patienter Naturalists in better times have enumerated, especially since those already discuss'd are the most difficultly solv'd of any of them. If you are angry to see coarse Fare garnished with such variety of hard Words, which I must confess is a fault much in vogue among our *Philosophers*, and after all is no more than a *Vacuum Disseminatum* in their Books, I must e'n tell you I could not help it; Delicacy of Subject and Newness of Notion (such as it is) would have it so; nor can I take offence if my Opinion in a Matter whereof many have wrote much to little purpose, merit not your Approbation. To feed my imagination with hopes of success after the disappointments of such Heroes of *Philosophy*, were as Sawcy and Presumptuous, as it would have been in one of *Hercules's* Wives to pretend to beat her Husband after he had Conquered his twelve Labours; nay, so little do I promise my self of any thing like it, that I am very apt to believe all our Inquiries into the Causes of *Magnetical* Operations are next to desperate, and will ever be so. Indeed the All-wise Author of Nature seems to have design'd them not so much Objects of our Curiosity, as matter of our Admiration, and I might add of our Imitation; for where is there that Emblem or *Hieroglyphick* which in so lively Colours represents the Passions and Morals of Mankind? The Malicious and Quarrelsome World see themselves Mock'd while they behold two Stones fly on another for no other Reason than an innate Natural Averfation. again the Covetous may blush to see  
in



in the manner of the *Magnet's* Communication the Picture of one at Home, who instead of spending any part of his Treasure upon himself, spends himself wholly upon that. again it's perpetual Affection of the same Points of the *Hemisphere*, exposes the Ambitious and Voluptuous, whose Souls are so link'd to Greatness and Pleasure, that they seem to have forfeited the Privilege of a free Will. On the other Hand it tacitly teaches Rational and Sober Men the necessity of directing their Designs and Actions all to one end, and in Order thereto of preserving a mutual Unanimity amongst themselves. As therefore the *Magnet* seems primarily, and especially to be deputed to this Moral use, for in the whole Republick of Nature, there is not an inanimate Body more edifying, nor certainly an animate more inscrutable, so does it discharge this function in a manner most punctual and at the same time most unintelligible. and in this Instance as in many others, the Comodioufness and Utility of the Phenomena compensate for their Latency and Obscurity; for as for those artificial Purposes we have taught it to serve, particularly in Navigation, they do not appear to have been the Genuin and Natural ends of it they being altogether Precarious and Contingent; so that the study of its Instructions is much more safe and beneficial than the study of its Construction. and did *Philosophers* observe this Rule in all their *Philosophical* enquiries, it would make much more for the credit of their Profession, and be of greater advantage to Mankind in general; we should have less of their Errors and more of their Reason; and that Science which has lost its Reputation by its Fallacies and Presumptions, would by these means more than recover it; nay, doubtless a clear Knowledg of the true uses of things, would give us a better Light into the Nature of them, then their Nature gives us into the uses of them. But I decline the Prosecution of this Argument as having been so Particularly and Elegantly manag'd in the Case before you, by a learned Gentleman of the last Age; this only I will add, That whether any or all our Disquisitions of this kind succeed or fail, we shall have still new Motives of expressing our Praise and Veneration to the Almighty

mighty Lord of all things; our Praise when they succeed for his having permitted the Children of Men to know so much of the Methods of his Providence, and our Veneration where they fail. For who can do other than adore and revere the infinite Power and Wisdom of the Creator, When the noblest of humane Faculties are not able with the nicest Inspection to make any satisfactory discovery of the Frame and Constitution of the Creature. Let therefore that *Orizon* with which we lately terminated our Discourse, conclude this Letter. That the Omnipotent Authour of all things would bestow on his Rational Creatures with their Knowledge a proportionable largess of Grace to use it to his Honour and Glory, and our own Spiritual Improvement. I hope all our Friends in the Country thrive.

March 16, 169<sup>6</sup><sub>7</sub>.

*I am,*

*Sir, Yours, &c.*

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*F I N I S.*

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